Air pollution in Delhi

4045. SHRIMATI PREMA CARIAPPA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state.

(a) whether the air pollution levels are steadily increasing in Delhi, particularly in the most congested areas of the city;

(b) whether the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) have revealed that the level of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) and Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter (RSPM) in these areas are much higher than the permissible level, leading to diseases like heart disorders, lung infections, asthma and bronchitis etc.;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the immediate measures taken/being taken to check such air pollutions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The Central Pollution Control Board is monitoring the ambient air quality of Delhi at Nizamuddin, Janakpuri, Shahadara, Shahzada Bagh, Pitampura, Town Hall, Sarojni Nagar and Mayapuri Under National Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Programme. The air quality data for the period 2002 to 2006 reveals that Sulphur Dioxide levels are within the prescribed norms at all the monitoring stations in residential ' and industrial areas. Levels of Oxides in Nitrogen are also within the prescribed norms and marginal increase was observed in 2005 at Town Hall. Levels of Suspended Particulate Matter (SPM) and Respirable Suspended Particulate Matter.(RSPM) exceed the prescribed norms at these monitoring stations with the increasing trend in the levels of SPM & RSPM arrested.

(b) and (c) As per the information furnished by the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC), it has not undertaken any study which shows any link between increasing pollution and disease.

(d) The measures taken to abate air pollution include:—

- Notification of general and source specific environmental standards;
- Implementation of Bharat Stage-Ill emission norms, as provided in auto fuel Policy, from April 1, 2005, for both petrol and diesel

driven new 4-wheeler vehicles and by introduction of Bharat-lll compliant fuel;

- Introduction of improved Pollution Under Control (PUC Certification system for in -use vehicles;
- Initiation of Source Apportionment Studies,
- Switchover to the CNG mode of the entire intra-city bus fleet;
- Use of washed coal (having ash not more than 34%) for all coal based Thermal Power Plants of Delhi;
- Phasing out of more than 15 year old commercial transport vehicles;
- Implementation of stringent diesel-generator set emission norms
- Regular monitoring for environmental compliance.

Fund allocated for development of environment and forests

†4046. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the amount allocated in Tenth Five Year Plan for the development of environment and forests in the country, State-wise,

(b) whether allocated amount was utilized as per expected norms;

(c)if so, the details thereof; and

(d)if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) The amount for the development of environment and forests in the country is allocated Scheme/ Programme wise and not State-wise. .

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The details of amount allocated in the Tenth Five Year Plan for the development of environment an forest, is given in Statement (See below).

(d) Does not arise.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi